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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE



In re Patent Application of

LEREBOUR et al.

Atty. Ref.: 2365-28

Serial No. 09/782,520

Group:

Filed: February 14, 2001

Examiner:

For: USE OF PARTICULAR FATTY SUBSTANCES WHICH MAKE IT POSSIBLE TO
MODIFY THE PHYSICOCHEMICAL PROPERTIES OF THE SKIN AND/OR THE
MUCOUS MEMBRANES AS AGENTS PREVENTING OR REDUCING THE
ADHESION OF MICROORGANISMS TO THE LATTER

* * * * *

March 16, 2001

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Preliminarily amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Amend the claims as follows.

Cancel claims 1-12, without prejudice.

Add the following claims.

--13. (new) A method of modifying the physicochemical properties of the surface of the skin and/or of the mucous membranes so as to prevent or reduce the adhesion of microorganisms to the latter, said method comprising contacting a composition with said skin and/or mucous membranes, said composition comprising, as an active ingredient, in a cosmetic composition or pharmaceutical composition, a modifying effective quantity of at least one fatty substance free of